



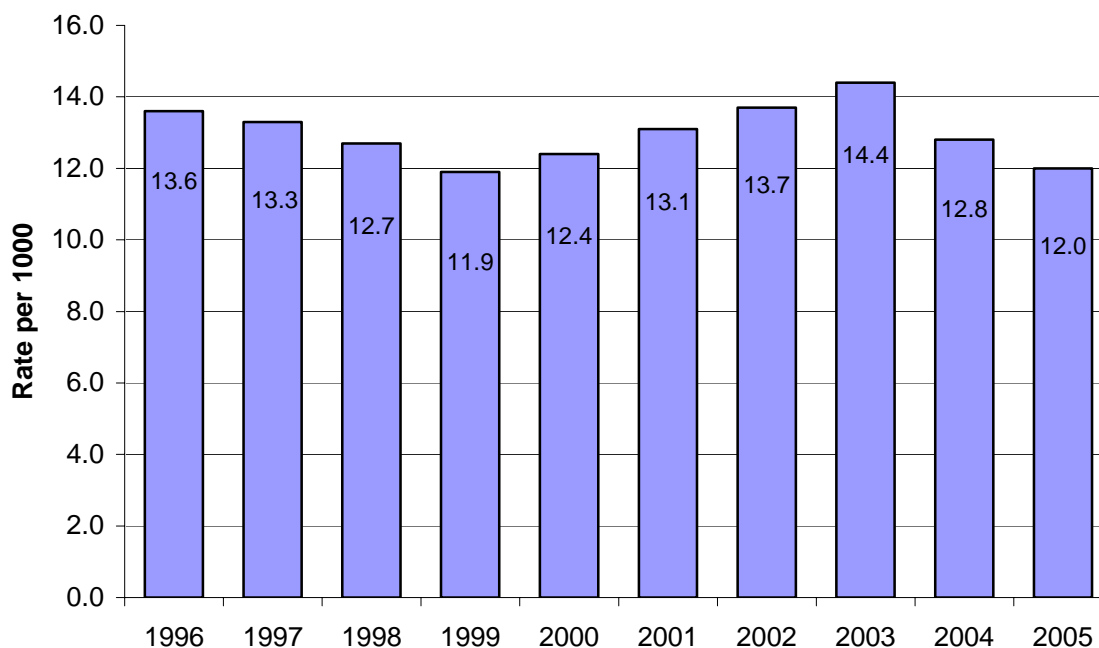
Topic: Maternal Health

24. Abortions

Induced abortions typically result from unintended pregnancies. While abstaining from sex is the most effective means of avoiding unintended pregnancies, effective family planning services can reduce the number of abortions.

How are we doing?

Michigan Abortion Rates 1996 - 2005



There were a total of 25,209 induced abortions among Michigan women in 2005, resulting in a rate of 12.0 per 1,000 women aged 15-44. Abortion rates have declined 22.6% since 1992 when the abortion rate was 15.5 per 1,000. In 2005, 51% of Michigan women who obtained an induced abortion had no previous induced abortion. A gradual increase has been observed in the proportion of women reporting two or more induced abortions from 17.3% in 1992 to 22.9% in 2005.

How does Michigan compare with the U.S.?

The Michigan abortion rate has been lower than the U.S. rate. In 2002, the most recent year for which national figures are available, the Michigan abortion rate of 13.7 per 1,000 was lower than the U.S. rate of 16.0 per 1,000.

How are different populations affected?

Eighty-six percent of induced abortions were to unmarried women in 2004. In 1990, 58.2% of abortions were to Michigan women under 25 years old; this percentage decreased to 51.3% in 2005. Abortions to teenagers account for most of the decline to women under 25 years old; the proportion of abortions to teenagers decreased from 25.3% in 1990 to 18.7% in 2005.



What is the Department of Community Health doing to improve this indicator?

The MDCH makes family planning services available and supports the Michigan Abstinence Program, Adolescent Health Centers, and the Talk Early & Talk Often Initiative. Family planning providers offer contraceptives and reproductive health services to encourage fertility control that promotes the health and well-being of women, children, and families. The educational and counseling components of the program help to reduce health risks and promote healthy behaviors. In 2006, family planning services were provided to 165,795 women and 5,344 men.